

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A muffler, ~~in particular for an~~  
2 ~~internal combustion engines, having engine,~~

3 ~~the muffler comprising a housing (2) through which a~~  
4 ~~flow gaseous medium flows and which has at least one~~  
5 ~~housing chamber (3, 5), and in which~~

6 ~~the muffler further comprising deflecting elements (13~~  
7 ~~to 16) serving that serve to make the flow gaseous medium~~  
8 ~~swirl and that are arranged in a fixed manner spaced apart~~  
9 ~~one behind another in the housing chamber along a main axis~~  
10 ~~(19') of the housing, and in a positionally fixed manner at~~  
11 ~~a distance from one another,~~

12 ~~wherein each one of the deflecting elements~~  
13 ~~respectively comprises a an originally disk-shaped body~~  
14 ~~(17') having a set of radially extending guiding elements~~  
15 ~~(18) being guide vanes as well as radially extending slots~~  
16 ~~(18') respectively between the guide vanes, is provided as~~  
17 ~~deflecting element (13, 14, 15, 16) and extends over the~~  
18 ~~clear cross section of the housing (2),~~

19 ~~wherein each one of the guide vanes has a free leading~~  
20 ~~edge along one of the slots and a free trailing edge along~~  
21 ~~another of the slots,~~

22 ~~wherein each one of the slots is respectively formed~~  
23 ~~and bounded between the trailing edge of one of the guide~~  
24 ~~vanes and the leading edge of a next adjacent one of the~~  
25 ~~guide vanes of a respective one of the deflecting elements,~~  
26 and

27       wherein guiding elements (18) which bound the slots  
28       (18'), are in the manner of the respective sets of guide  
29       vanes of successive adjacent ones of the deflecting  
30       elements along the main axis of the housing are  
31       respectively alternately oppositely angled at opposite  
32       pitch angles so as to and belong to adjacent, disk shaped  
33       bodies (17') deflect the flow of the gaseous medium  
34       respectively alternately in different opposite swirl  
35       directions with respect to about the main axis (19') of the  
36       housing respectively in successive portions of the  
37       housing chamber respectively between successive ones of the  
38       deflecting elements.

2. (canceled)

1       3. (original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
2       disk-shaped bodies (17') are in each case slotted  
3       rectilinearly.

1       4. (original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein all  
2       of the guiding elements (18) of a disk-shaped body (17')  
3       are angled in the same direction.

1       5. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       wherein the setting pitch angle ( $\alpha$ ) of the guiding elements  
3       (18) is alternately positive [[or]] and negative  
4       respectively on successive ones of the deflecting elements.

- 1       6. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       wherein those radially outer ends of the guiding elements  
3       (18) which are arranged at a distance from the main axis  
4       (19') of the housing are more sharply angled than their  
5       radially inner ends of the guiding elements which are  
6       situated near the main axis (19') of the housing.
  
- 1       7. (original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
2       guiding elements (18) are at least partially twisted in  
3       themselves.
  
- 1       8. (original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
2       disk-shaped body (17') as a blank is in the form of a  
3       circular ring.
  
- 1       9. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       wherein the guiding elements (18) are each respectively in  
3       the form of a sector of a circular ring.
  
- 1       10. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       wherein the deflecting elements (13 to 16) are arranged  
3       with their guiding elements (18) between housing chamber  
4       parts (2') and (3') without which do not contain deflecting  
5       elements.
  
- 1       11. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       wherein each of the deflecting elements (13 to 16) each  
3       form a respectively forms a respective muffler stage.

- 1       12. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       comprising the arrangement of ~~three to five or more at~~  
3       least three of the deflecting elements (13 to 16) each  
4       forming a muffler stage.
- 1       13. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       wherein each muffler stage/each deflecting element has  
3       approximately 10 to ~~40~~ 40, preferably approximately 20,  
4       guiding elements (18) which are each in the form of a  
5       sector of a circular ring in layout.
- 1       14. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       wherein the deflecting elements (13 to 16) each integrally  
3       have a hub part (17) [[and]] with the slots (18') extending  
4       radially outwardly outwardly therefrom and with the guiding  
5       elements (18) in the manner of guide vanes. guide vanes  
6       extending integrally radially outwardly outwardly therefrom.
- 1       15. (original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
2       deflecting elements (13 to 16) are in each case arranged on  
3       a supporting pipe (11) which conducts the gaseous medium.
- 1       16. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2       wherein the deflecting elements (13 to 16) having guiding  
3       elements (18) are manufactured in each case as disk-shaped  
4       bodies (17') from flat sheet-metal rings and as forming  
5       disk blanks in which the slots are formed as narrow

6 slots (18') which extend radially and rectilinearly from  
7 the outside to the inside.

17. (canceled)

1 18. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim [[17,]]  
2 1, wherein the setting pitch angles of successive ones of  
3 the deflecting elements which are inclined in opposite  
4 directions ~~(from +α' to -α)~~ have the same absolute  
5 angular value.

1 19. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2 wherein the deflecting elements (13 to 16) are arranged  
3 with a hub part (17) on a supporting element 11  
4 ~~(11)/support (24)~~ arranged centrally in the housing (2).

1 20. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2 wherein [[the]] an axial length of the housing (2) and/or  
3 or at least of a housing part (3, 5) is/are is dimensioned  
4 in such a manner that a different number of deflecting  
5 elements (13 to 16) adapted to [[the]] a particular  
6 application can be fitted therein.

1 21. (currently amended) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,  
2 ~~comprising its use for and in connection with~~ the internal  
3 combustion engine of a model aircraft.

22. (cancelled)

- 1       **23.** (new) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein each one
  - 2           of the deflecting elements further includes a hub from
  - 3           which the guide vanes extend radially outwardly, and
  - 4           wherein the guide vanes are connected to the hub only at
  - 5           respective radially inner root ends of the guide vanes and
  - 6           are otherwise not connected to one another in the
  - 7           respective deflecting element.
- 
- 1       **24.** (new) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least
  - 2           a portion of the housing chamber is a gaseous medium
  - 3           calming section that is hollow and unoccupied by the
  - 4           deflecting elements.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]